



From: [Buddy Roth](#)
To: [DH, LTCRegs](#)
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Please let this letter serve as enlightenment to the current staffing crisis that all nursing homes in the state of PA currently face in regards to the proposed change of increasing staffing ratios to 4.1

Since the pandemic, we on the front lines have been facing unprecedented staffing challenges in all areas of the facility. As a Food Service Director, I see first hand each day, each meal the challenges and struggles the dedicated staff who work hard each day face. Not only are we faced with a staffing shortage at this time but those dedicated staff who are still showing up for work every single day without missing a beat since the pandemic began, are now experiencing fatigue, burnout and anguish from working short handed.

Proposing the increase of staffing ratios at this time is simply absurd. If we are unable to properly staff nursing homes now, how in the world are we to staff them with even more people in the future?? No one wants to work, simple as that. Our government has overstepped its boundaries by providing continued relief to "out of work" people. There are a record 10.1 million jobs open in our nation and they aren't being filled because it has been made easier to not work and still live a respectable existence.

Until there are changes made to our unemployment structure, you should hold off on requiring the staffing increases. It will simply create an even bigger mess than already exists. By requiring increased staffing, you are going to put some of the smaller, stand alone, non-profit nursing homes out of business by either not meeting staffing requirements or by forcing them to lower census to meet current staffing levels, in turn not generating enough income to stay lucrative and maintain an existence.

Perhaps that is the grand plan though, eliminate these smaller "non-corporate" nursing homes, save money, because we all know it cost the government less money to fund home health.

In general, this is not the right time to impose these sorts of regulations on an already decimated industry. While you worked from home, we all came to care for the well being of our older population. Step out from behind the desk and come visit us, talk to us and learn of our staffing challenges before you mandate such unrealistic changes.

Sincerely-
Walter Roth
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